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Item 4 (g) of the provisional agenda*
Ongoing priorities and themes: Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

Information received from Governments

Note by the Secretariat

The Government of Denmark and the Greenland Home Rule Government

Summary

Partnership-building with indigenous peoples is a major focus of the Programme of Action of the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People adopted by the General Assembly (A/60/270). With a view to supporting the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues by identifying good practices of partnerships with indigenous peoples, the Greenland Home Rule Government, in cooperation with the Danish Government, hosted a workshop on partnership visions for the Second Decade. A wide range of partnerships with indigenous peoples covering diverse situations were presented at the workshop and substantive recommendations were made at the fifth session of the Permanent Forum. The report of the workshop is contained in the present report.

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I. Introduction

1. The Programme of Action for the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (A/60/270) clearly identified partnership as an effective way to achieve the main objectives of the Second Decade: promoting non-discrimination and inclusion of indigenous peoples; promoting full and effective participation of indigenous peoples; redefining development with identity; adopting targeted policies and programmes; and developing strong monitoring mechanisms and enhancing accountability at the international, regional and particularly the national level. The Programme of Action states that "All relevant actors are urged to establish, develop and promote strong partnerships among indigenous peoples, Governments and intergovernmental bodies, agencies, funds, non-governmental organizations and the private sector during the Second Decade". With a view to making recommendations on partnerships to the fifth session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the Greenland Home Rule Government, in cooperation with the Permanent Forum and the Danish Government, organized the workshop on the theme "Partnership Visions for the Second Decade of the World's Indigenous People", hosted from 14 to 15 February 2006 in Nuuk, Greenland. The Danish International Development Agency, the Greenland Home Rule Government and the Inuit Circumpolar Conference co-sponsored and contributed to the organization of the workshop.

II. Organization of work

A. Attendance

2. The following Permanent Forum members participated in the workshop: Wilton Littlechild, Ida Nicolaisen, Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, Eduardo Aguiar de Almeida, Liliane Muzangi Mbela, Michael Dodson, Merike Kokajev, William Langeveldt, Otilia Lux de Coti, Aqqaluk Lynge, Xiaomei Qin and Pavel Sulyandziga. Yuri Boychenko, Nina Pacari Vega, Parshuram Tamang and Hassan Id Balkassm were not able to attend the workshop due to other commitments.

3. The workshop was attended by experts from the following member States, the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations: Burundi, Indonesia, Kenya, Mexico, Denmark, Norway, the European Commission, the International Labour Organization (ILO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the World Bank, the Saami Council, the Confederation of Indigenous Peoples of Bolivia, the Inuit Circumpolar Conference, the Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North, Tebtebba Foundation, the Resource Centre for the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the World Conservation Union, the International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs and the Netherlands Centre for Indigenous Peoples. The workshop was also attended by officials and experts from the Greenland Government.

4. A total of 59 persons attended the workshop, including observers (see annex III).

B. Documentation

5. The participants had before them a draft agenda and documents prepared by participating experts. Documentation is listed in annex II and will be available on the website of the secretariat of the Permanent Forum (www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/).

C. Opening of the meeting

6. At the opening of the workshop, Josef Motzfeldt, Minister of Finance and Foreign Affairs of the Greenland Home Rule Government, Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, Chairperson of the Permanent Forum, and Aqqaluk Lynge, President of Inuit Circumpolar Conference Greenland, made opening statements.

D. Election of officers

7. Ms. Tauli-Corpuz and Henriette Rasmussen, adviser of the Greenland Home Rule Government, were designated as co-chairpersons of the workshop and Mick Dodson, Permanent Forum member, as Rapporteur. In her opening remarks, Ms. Tauli-Corpuz presented the objectives of the workshop and warmly thanked the Greenland Home Rule Government, the Danish International Development Agency and the Inuit Circumpolar Conference for their support in the work of the Permanent Forum.

E. Adoption of the agenda

8. The agenda as adopted is contained in annex I.

F. Adoption of conclusions and recommendations

9. On 15 February 2006, the workshop adopted the conclusions and recommendations by consensus.

G. Closure of the workshop

10. The meeting was closed after the adoption of the conclusions and recommendations in the final plenary on 15 February 2006.

III. Observations

11. Twenty-six case studies were submitted to the workshop, 23 presentations were made at the workshop and followed by discussions. While the case studies covered a wide range of areas of partnerships with indigenous peoples, several focused on the field of education. The highlights of the discussions are summarized below.

Legislation on indigenous peoples' rights

12. The importance of partnership-building in the decentralization process was emphasized by the participant from Indonesia. The legal framework established in Indonesia supports the participation of civil society, including indigenous organizations, in national debates on matters affecting them. Democracy is also an important condition for genuine dialogues between government and indigenous peoples.

13. The presentation on Bolivia addressed the land titling issue in the process of national land reform. The National Agrarian Reform Service Law was passed in 1996 in Bolivia, providing that claims on indigenous territories should be submitted to the land ordering and titling process called SAN-TCO, before being titled in favour of indigenous peoples. The State has not, however, allocated sufficient financial resources to implement the SAN-TCO process. A partnership was thus formed among the Confederation of Indigenous Peoples of Bolivia, the Centre for Indigenous Territorial Planning, the Government of Bolivia and the Danish Foreign Ministry/the Royal Danish Embassy. The successes of this partnership included that Bolivia now recognizes the collective property rights of indigenous peoples and has granted collective property rights for more than 6 million hectares in the lowlands. Indigenous peoples in Bolivia have access to updated information on the process, and the indigenous authorities have been trained on agrarian legislation and the SAN-TCO process itself. Furthermore, this partnership has led to more structured coordination, planning, monitoring and evaluation of the SAN-TCO process between the State and indigenous peoples and has enhanced the capacity of indigenous peoples in negotiating with the State in relation to natural resources.

14. The Resource Centre for the Rights of Indigenous Peoples presented the experience on legal actions taken by indigenous organizations with regard to a law to be implemented in indigenous territory, Sápmi, Norway. In 2003, the Norwegian Government submitted a proposal for a new Finnmark Act without prior consultations with the Saami Parliament. According to the Saami Parliament, that bill would undermine the opportunity of the Saami in Finnmark on decision-making over natural resources. The Saami Parliament built a network of support and created a coalition of international human rights experts, Norwegian Saami and other indigenous legal experts to bring the issue to the attention of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. The State Standing Committee on Justice undertook dialogues with the Saami Parliament, which made substantive comments on the bill. Subsequently, both sides reached an agreement regarding the procedures for consultations between the Government and the Saami Parliament.

Education and culture

15. A representative of the Mexican Ministry of Education presented a statement on the experiences of bilingual and intercultural education. Until 2001, education targeting and covering the languages and cultures of indigenous peoples was provided only at the primary level of education. By 2001, several educational institutions were building partnerships with the Mexican federal administration, while also consulting with 51 of the 62 indigenous groups. Through those partnerships, materials were produced to interculturalize school curricula in secondary and higher education. An important strategy was to engage professionals in education. Successes have included acceptance of intercultural education as a key

component of education policy and the establishment of intercultural institutions. Material was produced for media to raise public awareness.

16. The process of return of Greenlandic archaeological and ethnographic collections from Denmark was an example of partnership between the Greenland National Museum and the Danish National Museum. Ethnographic and archaeological objects relating to the prehistory of Greenland were all brought out of Greenland, mainly to Denmark, until 1979, when the Home Rule Government was established in Greenland. The then newly created Greenland National Museum initiated a partnership with the Danish National Museum in order to transfer the Greenland collections back to Greenland. The two museums agreed later on the basic principles and established a committee to monitor the transfer process.

17. UNESCO emphasized the promotion of cultural diversity as highly relevant to indigenous peoples. UNESCO is engaging in a large partnership network, including Governments, national commissions, parliamentarians, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the academic community and associations, the media, schools, cultural and scientific institutions and private sector partners. In the implementation of the medium-term strategy (2002-2007), UNESCO applies an interdisciplinary approach to indigenous peoples-related areas such as tangible and intangible heritage, the promotion of multicultural education, the promotion of cultural rights and the participation of indigenous peoples in decision-making processes, the enhancement of local and indigenous knowledge systems and intergenerational transmission and support for the creation of national consultative bodies and networks by and of indigenous peoples.

Environment and sustainable development

18. The case study on Kenya focused on natural resource management and sustainable development of indigenous peoples' livelihood and national park management. The Elangata Wuas Ecosystem Management Programme in Kenya was initiated in 1992 in response to the search for community-driven sustainable natural resource management options. At that time, wildlife had progressively migrated from the national parks and game reserves into community ranches, following heavy animal build-up and concomitant habitat degradation in the conservation areas. Indigenous communities were forced to shoulder the responsibility for conservation without benefiting from it. The Elangata Wuas Ecosystem Management Programme is a partnership between the Elangata Wuas and Kilonito communities of the Loodokilani location of the Central Division of Kajiado District, the Centre for Biodiversity of the National Museums of Kenya and the Kenya Wildlife Service. To develop sustainable management of dryland natural resources while balancing conservation with development, some of the successes of that partnership have included the registration of a community-based organization with functional roles and responsibility; community ownership in programme management; the development of ecotourism to provide employment opportunities; a new low-cost technology for herding ostriches, increased cooperation on traditional medicinal knowledge; and increasing awareness within the community about gender issues in relation to natural resource management.

19. The Batwa people in Burundi are experiencing new empowerment processes in sustainable development. The non-governmental organization Unissons-nous pour la promotion des Batwa partnered with the Overseas Development Agency of the

Catholic Church, the Interchurch Organization for Development Cooperation, the media and other actors. The goals of the partnership were to provide access to basic education and resources, bring the Batwa into all fields of life in mainstream society and combat discrimination against them. The partners organized activities of capacity-building for communities and staff of Unissons-nous pour la promotion des Batwa in which the Batwa were directly involved. These activities contributed to raising awareness among the Batwa on human rights, increasing the number of children in primary and secondary school and increasing political and economic integration of the Batwa in the national society.

20. The regional partnership among three organizations of the Arctic including two indigenous organizations has significantly contributed to the capacity of Russian indigenous peoples' organizations. The partnership consists of the Saami Council, UNEP/GRID-Arendal and the Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North. The latter identified common problems relating to their threatened environment and natural resources and the possibility of impending physical extinction, and decided to seek help from international forums. With support from Norway, this decision led to the development of a proposal to support the indigenous peoples of Arctic Russia in the fall of 1998. Based on the Saami experience in Norway, Sweden and Finland, and with the support of the Saami Council, this partnership provided staff of the Russian Association with training and other advocacy activities, resulting in an increased awareness of the importance of indigenous knowledge and increased participation of the Russian Association in UNEP work.

21. The World Conservation Union found it increasingly necessary to involve indigenous peoples in the implementation of protected area projects and to expand partnership at the global policy level. At the World Parks Congress in Durban in 2003, a partnership was forged between the World Conservation Union, the Indigenous Peoples' Ad-hoc Working Group on Protected Areas, several indigenous organizations from Asia, Africa and Latin America, and other international NGOs. Some of the successes of that partnership include active dialogue between indigenous representatives and protected area communities, further recognition/integration of indigenous issues in Durban Outputs and wider protected area thinking, coordinated inputs into the Convention on Biological Diversity Party Programme of Work on Protected Areas and greater involvement of indigenous organizations in the World Conservation Union programmes and member organizations.

Partnerships in other areas

22. The ILO experiences on partnership with Kenya and Cambodia illustrated different approaches of ILO work with indigenous peoples. In Cambodia, where broader indigenous representative structures are lacking and capacity for negotiations is weak, decisions are made for, as opposed to by, indigenous peoples, in relation to the national poverty reduction strategy paper and the Millennium Development Goals strategies, among others. A long-term project of cooperation with government and indigenous partners on the theme "A rights-based approach to indigenous peoples", was initiated in Cambodia, in order to address the needs for capacity-building and policy dialogue in 2005. In Kenya, where pastoralists and hunter-gatherer communities suffer from an increasing appropriation of their land, ILO supported a series of activities between 2001 and 2005 in partnership with the

Pastoralist Hunter-Gatherer Ethnic Minority Network ensuring that indigenous voices were heard in the constitutional review process and attracted support from donors other than ILO.

23. Article 10 of the 1982 World Bank operation manual statement stipulated that World Bank officers shall not interfere with the politics of Governments. That policy has since been revised, notably in 1991 and 2005. Consultations were held with external stakeholders to revise it in 1998-1999, and then again in 2001-2002, when external stakeholders, borrower Governments, NGOs, academic experts and indigenous peoples' organizations were consulted to draft an indigenous peoples' policy; 32 global, regional and in-country consultations were held with 1,200 stakeholders from 35 countries. Significant input into policy revision was also obtained at meetings of the Permanent Forum and the Working Group on Indigenous Populations (2001-2004). These consultations have resulted in what the World Bank considers to be a new kind of engagement with indigenous peoples — one that pursues direct dialogue with indigenous peoples for revising World Bank policy, as opposed to more passive "consultations".

24. The International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs is working with many types of organizations and is engaged in many different types of partnerships. Each of the International Work Group's four main areas of work — publishing, human rights, project support and lobbying — is guided by the principles that underline their visions of working together with indigenous peoples. Human rights activity consisted of the mobilization of a huge network during the last session of the Commission on Human Rights at the time of the debate of the draft declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples. During that meeting, indigenous representatives managed to mobilize indigenous organizations all over the world behind a united strategy and to keep the network active after the Commission meeting in order to make a concerted input into the Working Group on the draft declaration.

25. A panel discussion on the Arctic Council dealt with regional partnership among Governments, indigenous peoples' organizations and various other partners involved in environment and sustainable development of the Arctic region. In the late 1980s, the Arctic became increasingly understood as a single region, and international cooperation to deal with the shared environmental challenges of the Arctic region became an immediate goal for indigenous peoples, Governments and researchers. Indigenous peoples' organizations and Governments mapped out common objectives in order to secure meaningful involvement for indigenous peoples in the Arctic Environmental Protection Strategy and later the Arctic Council. Main partners in the process were the Government of Canada, which played a key role in establishing the Arctic Council, as well as other supportive Governments and, on the indigenous peoples' side, the Saami Council, the Inuit Circumpolar Conference, and the Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North. That partnership led to the establishment of the Arctic Council in 1996 and gave rise to the indigenous peoples of the Arctic gaining the status of Permanent Participants, giving them de facto equivalence to that of member States at ministerial meetings, Senior Arctic Officials' meetings and other relevant meetings of the Arctic Council. Indigenous peoples' participation in this forum is supported by the Indigenous Peoples' secretariat, established in cooperation with the Government of Denmark and the Greenland Home Rule Government.

26. The representative from the Tebtebba Foundation of the Philippines shared the experience of the visit of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people to the Philippines. After the appointment of a Special Rapporteur by the Commission on Human Rights in 2001, the Tebtebba Foundation, an indigenous organization, decided to work towards the Special Rapporteur being invited to the Philippines, given the serious situation of human rights of indigenous peoples, to use human rights procedures as a channel for more effective engagement with the United Nations, and thus to bring the United Nations closer to the lives of indigenous peoples in the Philippines. Partnerships were established both before and during the project, involving Tebtebba, other indigenous peoples' organizations, networks and support groups within the country. Throughout the process, these partnerships succeeded in compiling numerous case studies on violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous peoples committed in several communities. The official report of the Special Rapporteur (E/CN.4/2003/90/Add.3) became a major reference on the situation of the indigenous peoples in the Philippines, and a number of follow-up activities have been or are being implemented.

27. The third five-year agreement between Bolivia and Denmark covers the period 2005-2010, extending Danish support to the sector programme for indigenous peoples with $28 million. The agreement also stipulates thematic support to the reform process of the public sector, national reconciliation, conflict resolution, human rights, democracy and gender equality, agriculture, environment and education. The Danish sector programme for indigenous peoples relies on the collaboration of a conglomerate of partners: the Bolivian State at the national, regional and local levels, indigenous organizations and national and international NGOs. With the focus on collective titles to land, the programme has a four-pronged strategy involving (a) technical support and capacity-building at the National Land Reform Institute; (b) direct support to indigenous peoples' administration of their territories; (c) support to indigenous peoples' participation in political and economic reform process; and (d) support to the Vice-Ministry for indigenous peoples in enhancing its capacity to incorporate indigenous peoples into the development process.

28. UNICEF provided an example of partnership with indigenous children and youth of two of the most marginalized groups of indigenous peoples — Kabihung and Dumagat — both of which have suffered extreme poverty, illiteracy and servitude for decades. A participatory community appraisal was conducted in 2004 through a partnership involving UNICEF, Camarines Norte Provincial Office of the National Commission on Indigenous People and the different local government units of the project areas, in order to allow the target indigenous communities themselves to surface the realities and issues of their present situation. Information and perspectives were thus gathered and included interviews, discussions and consultations with municipal employees using methods and approaches based on the participatory community appraisal. These methods can be characterized as participatory by involving community members sharing their own views, as adaptable by being flexible enough to be appropriate to the community's culture and situation and inventive by its light structure for changes, modifications and innovations.

29. The Regional Indigenous Peoples Programme (RIPP) is a partnership initiated by UNDP in 2004. Within the framework of the UNDP policy on engagement with indigenous peoples, the work of RIPP aims at promoting dialogue between indigenous peoples, Governments and other relevant parties throughout Asia and the Pacific region. Key partners in the region include regional and national indigenous peoples' organizations, bilateral donors and the international financial institutions, such as the Asian Development Bank. Within the United Nations system partners include the Permanent Forum, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) on pioneering the human rights-based approach, ILO on regional programmes and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) on the empowerment of women. UNDP-RIPP is currently assisting Cambodia and Indonesia with review and/or reformulation of national laws and policies relevant to indigenous peoples. UNDP-RIPP is also involved in promoting natural resource management, land tenure and resource rights, data disaggregation, capacity development and knowledge-sharing with and for indigenous peoples.

30. In August 2005, a workshop on the theme "Engaging the marginalized: partnerships between indigenous peoples, Governments and civil society was held in Brisbane, Australia, and was co-sponsored by the secretariat of the Permanent Forum and the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission of Australia. The workshop identified the need to significantly increase efforts to build effective partnerships between Governments, the private sector, civil society and indigenous peoples. To that end, it developed a checklist of principles for Governments, the private sector and civil society to engage indigenous peoples in relation to various contexts, including indigenous systems of governance and law, indigenous territories and lands, treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements between States and indigenous peoples, extractive industries, conservation, hydro-development, tourism and other areas and access to natural resources including biological, genetic and traditional knowledge resources. The checklist specifically calls for a human rights-based approach to development; mechanisms for representation and engagement, design, negotiation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and capacity-building. The report of Brisbane workshop is available at www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/en/workshops.html.

31. The experience of two indigenous communities in South Africa presented at the workshop illustrated the impact and differences between a good partnership and no partnership on local governance and the implications on indigenous peoples' lives. While one has managed to be sustained through strengthened local governance and to manage conflicts, the other one has lost control of the natural resources and been reduced to extreme poverty. The good practices shared and lessons learned from the two communities with regard to the management of their land and natural resources have also demonstrated the need of capacity-building for indigenous communities so that they would be better supported in the negotiations with private sector. The United Nations agencies are called upon to enhance their activities on capacity-building of indigenous communities in this regard.

IV. Conclusions and recommendations

Conclusions

32. The world is increasingly moving towards democratization, and indigenous peoples have often contributed to this process. It is now timely for States and the international community to build on existing good practices and further develop policies, laws and programmes that promote indigenous peoples' rights, self-determination, development with respect for identity and culture and dignity. There is a growing recognition of indigenous cultures, including cultural expressions, knowledge systems and world views, as part of the common heritage of humanity and as an important resource for sustainable development. The Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Heritage and the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expression reflect that recognition.

33. The Millennium Declaration, the Millennium Development Goals, and the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits provide fresh opportunities for partnerships among indigenous peoples and States, the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and other actors. Enhanced efforts should be made to implement the recommendations of the Permanent Forum regarding the Millennium Development Goals and indigenous peoples.

34. The goals, objectives and Programme of Action of the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People inspire rich visions of partnerships with indigenous peoples. The special theme of the Second Decade — partnership for action and dignity — is a tribute to such efforts.

35. The Permanent Forum was originally conceptualized and promoted by indigenous peoples. The subsequent establishment, mandate and composition, and way of functioning of the Permanent Forum is a major example of partnership at the international level between States, indigenous peoples and the intergovernmental system. Once a declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples is adopted, it can potentially serve as a comprehensive framework for partnership between States and indigenous peoples.

36. The United Nations system, especially in connection with international legal instruments and bodies of relevance to indigenous peoples, including ILO as the monitor of ILO Conventions No. 107 and No. 169 and the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child as monitor of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Committee on Human Rights and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, as well as other human rights instruments and Special Rapporteur mechanisms, is influential in engaging Governments and others in good partnerships with indigenous peoples. Country and regional level coordination and cooperation of the United Nations system on indigenous issues has had positive results in mainstreaming such issues in development programmes and processes.

37. The variety of case studies presented at the workshop identified lessons learned from experiences of Governments, intergovernmental organizations and indigenous peoples and non-governmental organizations, challenges, facilitating

factors and a number of common elements of what constitutes good partnership with indigenous peoples.

A. Elements of good (effective and efficient) partnerships

38. A good partnership could be briefly described as one that has the vision of reaching a common goal by joining different types of knowledge, experiences and resources into an alliance and continuous dialogue that is based upon mutual respect, consent and solidarity.

39. Partnerships with indigenous peoples that are particularly significant include, but are not limited to, those related to the following areas:

(a) Promotion of respect for and recognition of indigenous peoples' basic human rights and fundamental freedoms, which include, inter alia, their rights to self-determination, their lands, territories and resources (including their right not to be displaced or forcibly relocated without their free, prior and informed consent) and development, as well as their right to their culture, identity and knowledge systems;

(b) Monitoring and ensuring the compliance of Governments in implementing their obligations regarding international human rights law, multilateral environmental agreements and existing and emerging standards on indigenous peoples' rights;

(c) Treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements between States and indigenous peoples;

(d) Access to natural resources, including biological resources, genetic resources and traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples, leading to possible exploration, development or use thereof;

(e) Development of policies, processes, programmes and projects, including but not limited to planning, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and closure, that directly address indigenous peoples or may affect them. This includes the formulation of legislation and policies dealing with or affecting indigenous peoples;

(f) Social and environmental impact assessment studies and access and benefit-sharing agreements that have impacts on indigenous peoples' lands, territories and resources;

(g) Education sector, especially the development of bilingual, intercultural, non-racist and non-discriminatory education systems to promote indigenous peoples' rights and dignity and to educate non-indigenous people to respect cultural diversity. That includes ensuring equal access of indigenous peoples to education;

(h) Health sector, in particular the recognition and enhancement of indigenous peoples' traditional healing systems and their knowledge of traditional medicinal plants and ensuring that they enjoy equal access to health services;

(i) Administration of justice which includes the recognition of customary laws and justice systems and addresses the issue of disproportional representation of indigenous peoples in jails, arbitrary arrests, detention, extrajudicial killings and other forms of human rights violations;

(j) Cultural heritage issues, including the recognition of indigenous peoples' rights to tangible and intangible heritage, knowledge systems, world views, cultural expressions, sacred sites and the repatriation of cultural heritage and human remains from museums outside indigenous territories;

(k) Building and strengthening indigenous peoples' organizations, networks, formations and other institutions, which includes enhancing their capacity to carry out research, education and advocacy work and their capacity to govern.

40. A good partnership is a process and therefore the involvement of each partner at all stages and levels of the process is essential for success.

41. In a good partnership, consultation with indigenous peoples and communities takes place through the representative institutions of the peoples concerned.

42. Recognition of indigenous peoples' rights in law provides a solid institutional framework for partnerships and productive relationships.

43. Partnerships with indigenous peoples have to be based on the fundamental principles of human rights and sustainable human development that promote indigenous peoples' rights, both individual and collective, including their right to self-determination, lands, territories and resources, ensure respect for the principle of free, prior and informed consent and the implementation of the precautionary principle.

44. Partnerships should support indigenous peoples' visions and priorities for the process of development.

45. Partnerships with indigenous women and a gender dimension to partnerships is an essential element of success for such partnerships.

46. Good partnerships are those that do not lead to relations of dependency but to independent action by the indigenous peoples concerned.

47. Crucial elements of effective and efficient partnerships with indigenous peoples include:

(a) Mutual respect and consent, transparency and accountability among partners;

(b) Convergence and common understanding of substantial objectives, strategies, activities, outputs and expected impacts between and among the partners rather than separate institutional objectives;

(c) Focus on strengthening indigenous peoples' participation and influence in policy- and decision-making processes that affect their lives and involve the diversity of actors that have influence on such processes for all actors concerned;

(d) Focus on capacity development, its conceptualization and design as a long-term process with clear progression and benchmarks; capacity-building is most effective when it involves all sides — indigenous peoples, the United Nations system, government officials, other relevant actors and the public in general;

(e) Undertaking joint planning, implementation and evaluation with partners and understanding partnerships as shared learning processes, documenting the experiences and lessons learned and sharing with other partners, across countries and regions;

(f) Involving partners in international processes, as they often constitute sources of inspiration for experience-sharing.

B. Facilitating factors

48. Among the facilitating factors identified were the following:

(a) Participatory strategies for and with indigenous children and youth that facilitate partnerships with indigenous peoples and Governments and can have catalytic effects regarding policies;

(b) Persistence;

(c) Standing up for what is ethical and right;

(d) Making strategic alliances;

(e) Demonstrating the link between full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and better outcomes for all;

(f) Balancing between strong pressure and compromise;

(g) Parties getting to know each other as persons and getting to know the conditions that each is working under;

(h) Learning to know more about each other's culture;

(i) Having relationships that allow mutual criticism;

(j) Accepting differences and disagreement, while ensuring constructive ways of resolving conflict and building consensus;

(k) Developing media to promote indigenous knowledge systems and cultural resources.

C. Challenges, obstacles and barriers

49. Among the challenges identified were the following:

(a) Racism and discrimination;

(b) Lack of awareness of indigenous peoples' rights, lack of capacity and presence of elitism among staff of governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental institutions;

(c) Lack of adequate resources to follow through on plans made by partners, including implementation;

(d) Resistance by partners to new ways of seeing and doing things and resistance to innovative and bottom-top approaches;

(e) Mistrust based on historical experiences;

(f) Lack of adequate data or disaggregated data relating to indigenous peoples;

(g) Lack of an adequate level of institutional capacity among indigenous peoples and indigenous leadership.

Recommendations

50. **Governments, the international community, non-indigenous societies and people have an inescapable responsibility to indigenous peoples, given past and ongoing discrimination and oppression to which they have been and are subjected. Thus, measures should be taken and partnerships built to ensure the protection of and respect for indigenous peoples' rights and the realization of their visions of development with respect for culture and identity.**

51. **During the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People all relevant actors are urged to establish, develop and promote strong partnerships among indigenous peoples, Governments and intergovernmental bodies, agencies, funds and programmes, non-governmental organizations and the private sector. The Programme of Action of the Second International Decade and the draft universal declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples, when adopted, should serve as the basic frameworks for such partnerships. The creation of national tripartite bodies, which include representatives of Government, United Nations agencies and indigenous peoples, to formulate and implement national programmes for the Second Decade is encouraged as one form of such partnerships.**

52. **National constitutions and legislations should be reviewed and reformed to be purged of discriminatory and racist content and to ensure the recognition of indigenous peoples' collective and individual human rights, in conformity with international human rights standards.**

53. **Where (historic) partnerships already exist based on legal relationships between indigenous peoples and States in treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements, partnerships shall observe, honour, respect, enforce and implement such partnerships according to their original spirit and intent; conflicts and disputes which cannot otherwise be resolved should be submitted to competent national, regional and international bodies agreed to by the parties/partners concerned.**

54. **States should ensure that indigenous peoples enjoy high degrees of autonomy, if they so wish, and that they are represented in decision-making bodies of local and national institutions.**

55. **Indigenous peoples should actively seek participation and partnerships with existing United Nations system mechanisms at local, country, regional and international levels.**

56. **States should allocate resources to relevant institutions, including national commissions and departments on indigenous peoples, other relevant government agencies and the judicial system, so that those bodies will be able to implement legislation, policies and programmes addressing indigenous peoples.**

57. **Mechanisms between States and indigenous peoples and between NGOs and the private sector and indigenous peoples should be established for regular dialogues, better coordination, confidence-building processes and the resolution of disputes.**

58. **Mechanisms should be established for effective joint planning, implementation monitoring, assessment and evaluation of partnerships between indigenous peoples and State and non-State actors.**

59. **The United Nations system and States should encourage the recruitment of indigenous persons in the public sector at local, national and international levels.**

60. **International development agencies and other donors should review their procedures of assistance and make them less bureaucratic and more accessible for indigenous peoples.**

61. **There should be improved coordination within and among the various intergovernmental agencies and donors at the national, regional and international levels in relation to their policies, programmes and projects with indigenous peoples.**

62. **Special provisions and mechanisms should be established by United Nations agencies and other intergovernmental bodies to enable the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples' organizations and representatives in their activities. Special attention should be given to strengthening partnerships with indigenous women, youth and children.**

63. **Mechanisms should be developed for parties to resolve disputes, including access to independent systems of arbitration and conflict resolution.**

64. **Access by the Permanent Forum to and dialogues with the governing bodies of the United Nations specialized agencies, funds and programmes should be encouraged, developed and strengthened.**

65. **The secretariat of the Permanent Forum should establish, in cooperation with United Nations agencies, a database of indigenous expert resource persons and share it within the United Nations system.**

66. **Data collection and disaggregation for indigenous peoples should be a major area of partnerships between indigenous peoples and other relevant actors.**

67. **UNESCO should intensify efforts to facilitate dialogue and partnerships between States and indigenous peoples, with regard to responding to indigenous claims for the return of their cultural heritage, and to further provide technical support to indigenous peoples in that effort, if they so wish.**

68. **Global, regional and national mechanisms should be established to protect and monitor the situation of indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation and in danger of extinction.**

Awareness-raising, capacity enhancement and capacity-building

69. **States, the United Nations system and indigenous organizations are encouraged to document, share and promote good practices and lessons learned of partnerships at the annual sessions of the Permanent Forum and other occasions; publications on partnerships should be made available to indigenous peoples and widely disseminated to all concerned.**

70. **Indigenous traditional and other structures of governance should be recognized and provided adequate support to strengthen their capacity to engage in partnerships.**

71. **States, United Nations specialized agencies and other international and national development actors should enhance the capacity of indigenous peoples to design, implement, monitor, evaluate, upscale and replicate their own priorities for sustainable development. Capacity-building activities specifically targeting indigenous women, youth and children should be given special attention.**

72. **States and United Nations agencies should strengthen the capacity of their staff, including increasing their knowledge and awareness of indigenous peoples' rights and of the human rights-based approach to development and principles of promoting cultural diversity. The human rights-based approach to development adopted by the United Nations system,[1] which includes the principles of non-discrimination, equality and full and effective participation, should be implemented at the country level.**

73. **The United Nations system and bilateral institutions and donors should share more systematically tools and practices relevant to work with indigenous peoples, including the Danish International Development Agency toolkit on best practices for including indigenous peoples in sector programme support, and develop additional tools for United Nations country teams.**

74. **The Permanent Forum should consider the establishment of guidelines of good partnerships between indigenous peoples and various actors.**

75. **Governments and intergovernmental organizations should strengthen intersectoral cooperation and capacity on indigenous issues.**

76. **Indigenous peoples should specify which representative institutions are entitled to enter into a partnership on behalf of the affected peoples or communities. Where this is not possible, a partnership should emphasize the building of relevant indigenous peoples' capacity in this regard.**

[1] The United Nations Statements of Common Understanding of the human rights-based approach to development cooperation was adopted in 2003. References are made in it to the inclusion and participation of indigenous peoples in the 2004 revised version of the Common Country Assessment Guidelines and the United Nations Development Framework Assistance at country level.

Annex I

Agenda

United Nations Permanent Forum Workshop on Partnership Visions for the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples

(Nuuk, Greenland, 14-15 February 2006)

Tuesday, 14 February

Morning

Opening ceremony: appointment of Chairpersons and Rapporteur of the Workshop

Opening address:

Josef Motzfeldt, Greenland Home Rule Government Minister of Finance and Foreign Affairs

Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, Chairperson, United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII)

Aqqaluk Lynge, President, Inuit Circumpolar Conference (ICC) Greenland

Presentations and discussions

Intercultural education policy in Mexico, Sylvia Schmelkes, Department of Education, Government of Mexico

Community-based natural resources management for livelihood and development, Meshack Malo, National Museums of Kenya, Government of Kenya

Repatriation of Greenland cultural heritage from Denmark to Greenland, Daniel Thorleifsen, Director, Greenland National Museum and Archives

A democratic Indonesia: An opportunity for genuine dialogue on indigenous issues, Dicky Komar, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations

Socio-economic integration of the Batwa people of the Republic of Burundi, Libérate Nicayenzi, member of Parliament

Afternoon

Presentations and discussions (continued)

United Nations system role at national and regional levels to promote partnership, Paul Martin, UNICEF, Ecuador Office

UNDP engagement with indigenous peoples in Asia, Chandra Roy, UNDP

Partnership experiences of ILO with indigenous peoples in Cambodia and Cameroon, Birgitte Feiring, ILO

Direct engagement with indigenous peoples during the World Bank policy revision process, Navin Ray, World Bank

Partnerships between UNEP/GRID-Arendal and indigenous peoples: Some experiences gained, Kathrine Johnsen, UNEP/GRID-Arendal

Experiences with partnerships and intergovernmental bodies, Merike Kokajev, member of UNPFII

Experience in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liliane Muzangi Mbela, member of UNPFII

Alliances between the indigenous organizations and international cooperation agencies in the consolidation of the indigenous territories in Bolivia, Dionicio Guitierrez, Confederation of Indigenous Peoples of Bolivia

Partnerships in Sápmi with a special focus on the Finnmark Act, Magne Ove Varsi, Resource Centre for the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Partnership themes, Jens Dahl, International Work Group on Indigenous Affairs

World Conservation Union (IUCN) and partnerships with indigenous peoples: Lessons from the World Parks Congress Experience, Peter Bille Larsen, IUCN

Partnership with children, Dale Rutstein, UNICEF Office in the Philippines

Wednesday, 15 February

Morning

Panel discussion on the Arctic Council model of partnership

Aleksander Kobelev, the Saami Council

Pavel Sulyandziga, member of UNPFII, Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North

Carl Christian Olsen (Puju), ICC Greenland

Presentations and discussions (continued)

Partnership and indigenous peoples — Danish International Development Agency policies and experiences, Ida Nicolaisen, member of UNPFII

European Commission cooperation with indigenous peoples

Challenges and opportunities, Tove Søvndahl Pedersen, European Commission

UNESCO and indigenous peoples: Partnership to promote cultural diversity, presentation of a new publication, Susanne Schnuttgen, UNESCO

South African preliminary comparative study of two indigenous communities dealing with extractive industries in their territories, William Langeveldt, member of UNPFII, CRI Commission

Partnership with the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people: Case study from the Philippines, Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, Chair, UNPFII, Tebtebba Foundation

Engaging the marginalized — partnerships between indigenous peoples, Governments and civil society, the report on the United Nations workshop held in Brisbane, Australia, in 2005, Michael Dodson, member of UNPFII

Presentation of draft recommendations and principles to be included in the workshop report to the fifth session of UNPFII

Drafting of recommendations

Presentation and adoption of conclusions and recommendations

Close of meeting

Annex II

Documentation

Opening statements: Josef Motzfeldt, Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, Aqqaluk Lynge (Nuuk/2006/WS.doc1)

William Langeveldt, A South African preliminary comparative study of two indigenous communities (Nuuk/2006/WS.doc2)

Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, Partnership with the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people: Case study from the Philippines (Nuuk/2006/WS.doc3)

Parshuram Tamang, International Alliance's experiences with European Commission support for indigenous peoples capacity-building (Nuuk/2006/WS.doc4)

Hassan Id Balkassm: Partenariat entre l'Association Tamaynut et l'OIT (Nuuk/2006/WS.doc5)

Liliane Muzangi Mbela, Projet FIDA/PRAPE et le gouvernement congolais en faveur des populations vulnérables (Nuuk/2006/WS.doc6)

Mick Dodson, Engaging the marginalized — partnership between indigenous peoples, Governments and civil society (Nuuk/2006/WS.doc7)

Merike Kokajev, Experiences of partnership between indigenous peoples and intergovernmental bodies (Nuuk/2006/WS.doc8)

Ida Nicolaisen, Partnership with indigenous peoples — Danish International Development Agency policies and experiences (Nuuk/2006/WS.doc9)

The United Nations System role at the national and regional levels to promote partnership — report of the Panama inter-agency support group meeting 2005 (Nuuk/2006/WS.doc10)

ILO partnership experiences with indigenous peoples in Cambodia and Kenya (Nuuk/2006/WS.doc11)

UNDP engagement with indigenous peoples in Asia (Nuuk/2006/WS.doc12)

UNESCO and indigenous peoples: Partnership to promote cultural diversity (Nuuk/2006/WS.doc13)

Direct engagement with indigenous peoples during the World Bank policy revision process (Nuuk/2006/WS.doc14)

Participatory community appraisal, eight indigenous communities in the Philippines, UNICEF (Nuuk/2006/WS.doc15)

Capacity-building and participation of indigenous peoples in the sustainable development of the Arctic, UNEP/GRID-Arendal (Nuuk/2006/WS.doc16)

Challenges and opportunities for European Commission cooperation with indigenous peoples (Nuuk/2006/WS.doc17)

Community-based natural resources management for livelihood support and development in Kenya (Nuuk/2006/WS.doc18)

Repatriation of Greenland cultural heritage from Denmark to Greenland (Nuuk/2006/WS.doc19)

A democratic Indonesia: an opportunity for genuine dialogue on indigenous issues (Nuuk/2006/WS.doc20)

Integration socio-économique des Batwa au Burundi (Nuuk/2006/WS.doc21)

Intercultural education policy in Mexico (Nuuk/2006/WS.doc22)

Alliances between the indigenous organizations and international cooperation agencies in the consolidation of the indigenous territories in Bolivia (Nuuk/2006/WS.doc 23)

Partnership in Sapmi with a special focus on the Finnmark Act in Norway (Nuuk/2006/WS.doc24)

IWGIA Partnership themes (Nuuk/2006/WS.doc25)

IUCN experiences in connection with the 2003 World Parks Congress, and protected areas and indigenous peoples: the Durban contributions to reconciliation and equity (IUCN) (Nuuk/2006/WS.doc26)

International Circumpolar Conference: Negotiation indigenous inputs to the Arctic Council (Nuuk/2006/WS.doc27)

Annex III

Attendance

Members of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Victoria Tauli-Corpuz

Ida Nicolaisen

Pavel Sulyandziga

Otilia Lux Garcia de Coti

Michael Dodson

Wilton Littlechild

Eduardo Aguiar de Almeida

William Ralph Langeveldt

Xiaomei Qin

Liliane Muzangi Mbela

Merike Kokajev

Aqqaluk Lynge

Experts

Aleksander Kobelev, Saami Council

Dionicio Guitierrez, Confederation of Indigenous Peoples of Bolivia

Magne Ove Varsi, Resource Centre for the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Norway

Sylvia Schmelkes, Mexico

John Meshack Oguna Malo, Kenya

Turid Johansen Arnegaard, Norway

Nan Li, China

Liberate Nicayenzi, Burundi

Dicky Komar, Indonesia

Christina Rasmussen, Denmark

Tove Søvndahl Pedersen, European Commission

Carl Christian Olsen, ICC

Jens Dahl, International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs

Miriam Anne Frank, Netherlands Centre for Indigenous Peoples

Peter Bille Larsen, The World Conservation Union

Lars Karl Jensen, Greenland Association of Municipalities

Jess G. Berthelsen, Greenland Worker's Association

Britta N. Johansen, Greenland National Youth Organisation

Daniel Thorleifsen, Greenland National Museum and Archives

United Nations agencies

UNICEF Ecuador Office

UNICEF Philippines Office

UNDP Regional Indigenous Peoples' Programme, regional centre in Bangkok

International Labour Organization

World Bank

UNEP

UNESCO

Representatives of the Greenland Home Rule Government

Josef Motzfeldt, Minister of Finance and Foreign Affairs

Henriette Rasmussen, Adviser

Inuuteq Holm Olsen, Acting Deputy Minister, Department of Foreign Affairs

Kuupik Kleist, member of the Danish and Greenland Parliaments

Ellen Christoffersen, Greenland Parliament Committee on Foreign Affairs and Security

Marianne Jensen, member of CBD advisory group on article 8 (j)

Observers

Yvon Czonka, University of Greenland

Inge Seiding, International Arctic Social Sciences Association

Upaluk Poppel, University of Greenland

Laura Westergaard-Nielsen, University of Greenland

Minnnguaq Kleist, Secretariat of the Greenland members of the Danish Parliament

Anja Hynne Nielsen, Secretariat of the Greenland Parliament

Inga Hansen, Greenland National TV

Karoline Platou, Greenland National Radio

Per Jensen, Greenland National Radio

Mette Lynge, Aturi Art

Tida Ravn, Department of Self-Governance, Greenland

Jian Liu, Chinese Embassy to Denmark

Mille Gabrie, University of Copenhagen

Sophia Chloe Stamatopoulou-Robbins, Oxford University

Maluna Abelsen, Department of Foreign Affairs, Greenland

Secretariat

Marianne Lykke Thomsen, Department of Foreign Affairs, Greenland

Jakob Romann Hard, Department of Foreign Affairs, Greenland

Tina Naamansen, Department of Foreign Affairs, Greenland

Janus Chemnitz Kleist, Department of Foreign Affairs, Greenland

Hjalmar Dahl, ICC

Lene Kielsen Holm, ICC

Rena Skifte, ICC

Elsa Stamatopoulou, Chief, Secretariat of UNPFII

Hui Lu, Social Affairs Officer, Secretariat of UNPFII